

Psychology web page:

<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~lifesci/courses/index.html>

PsyC53H PSYCHOLOGY AND THE LAW

Fall, 2003

Monday, 1-3, Room H 215

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Office hours: M 10-12

Text: Wrightsman, Greene, Nietzel and Fortune (2002). **Psychology and the Legal System**, Fifth edition, Wadsworth Publishing Company, Calif.

This course will provide an opportunity to explore the way in which psychological processes such as perception, memory, attention and decision making influence various aspects of the legal process.

There will be two terms tests, each based on (1) assigned chapters in the textbook and (2) material covered in class. The tests will consist of a mix of short answer and multiple-choice questions. The first test will be given on October 20 during class. The second test will be given during exam period, Dec. 8-19. Each test is worth 50 points.

TOPICS

September 8: **The psychology of eyewitness testimony: Distortions during encoding**

September 15: **The psychology of eyewitness testimony: Distortions during storage**

Text: Chapt. 1 & 2

September 22: **The psychology of eyewitness testimony: Distortions during retrieval**

Text: Chapt. 3 & 7

September 29: **Recovered Memory**

Text: Chapt. 5

October 6: **No lecture. An extremely interesting video demonstrating the role of suggestibility in children's testimony of sexual abuse will be shown.**
Text: Chapt. 16 & 17

October 13: **Thanksgiving. No class**

October 20: **FIRST TERM TEST** (Nov.3 last day to withdraw from class)
Text: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 16, 17

October 27: **Hypnotic Memory Enhancement: Does it work?**
The film "Hypnosis on Trial" will be shown
Text: Chapt. 10

November 3: **Lie Detection**
Video: A case study of lie detection accuracy
Text: Chapt. 8

November 10: **Guest lecture by Dr. Sandy Wiseman: Risk Assessment**
Text: Chapt. 11

November 17: **Risk Assessment continued**
Text: Chapt. 12

November 24 : **The Jury, Part I**
Text: Chapt. 13 & 14

December 1: **The Jury, Part II**
Text: Chapt. 15

Exam Period December 8-19: **SECOND TERM TEST**

Text: Chapt. 8, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15.